

Message Text

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63

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 DPW-01 AID-05 NIC-01 OMB-01 /085 W

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R 201801Z JAN 75

FM USDEL JEC PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH 0228

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USMISSION GENEVA

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JEC PARIS 01621

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, VS, VN, PARM, ICRC

SUBJECT: PRG ISSUE AT SECOND SESSION OF CONFERENCE
ON LAW OF WAR

1. WE WISH TO CALL THE ATTENTION OF ADDRESSEES TO AN AFP REPORT FROM PARIS DATED JANUARY 20 WHICH REVEALS THAT MME NGUYEN THI BINH, THE PRG FOREIGN MINISTER, RECENTLY SENT A LETTER TO MR. PIERRE GRABER, SWISS PRESIDENT, DEMANDING THAT THE PRG BE GRANTED THE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE UPCOMING LAW OF WAR CONFERENCE ON AN EQUAL FOOTING WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RVN.

2. THE TEXT OF THIS LETTER WAS MADE PUBLIC DURING A PRESS CONFERENCE HELD IN PARIS JANUARY 20 BY THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE JANUARY 18-19 SEMINAR ON VIETNAM ORGANIZED BY THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEMOCRATIC JURISTS (SEE USDEL JEC 30610). THE PRG WAS REPRESENTED AT THIS CONFERENCE BY MR. NGUYEN VAN TIEN, THE PRG REPRESENTATIVE IN HANOI.

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3. IN HER LETTER, MME BINH REPORTEDLY STRESSED THE PRG'S

"ADHESION" TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS. SHE ALSO ARGUED THAT THE PARTICIPATION OF ONE OF THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE "ADMINISTRATIONS" WITHOUT THE OTHER WOULD BE CONTRARY TO THE PARIS ACCORD. USDEL/JEC IS ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN TEXT OF LETTER AND WILL CABLE IT AS SOON AS AVAILABLE.

4. TIEN ALSO GAVE AT THIS PRESS CONFERENCE AN INTERPRETATION OF THE RECENT DECISION BY U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM GRANTING A LIAISON MISSION TO THE PRG IN GENEVA. ACCORDING TO TIEN, WALDHEIM HAD WISHED IN 1973 TO GIVE THE PRG OBSERVER STATUS AT THE U.N. IN NEW YORK, BUT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT REFUSED TO GRANT VISAS TO THE MEMBERS OF THIS MISSION; BECAUSE OF THIS DEFEAT, WALDHEIM PROPOSED A MISSION IN GENEVA AND THE PRG ACCEPTED.

WILLIAMS

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